

[Translation]

Availability of Coal

2484. SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity in metric tonnes of pure coal as per the prescribed quantity and specifications available as on 15-7-91 in the B.C.C.L. and the C.C.L. of Coal India Limited;

(b) the extent of stocks at each of the mines; and

(c) the grades of coal stocks at each of the mines; and its grade-wise total value?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and to the extent possible will be laid on the Table of the House.

Extension of Pipeline of Natural Gas from Kakinada to Paradip

2485. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pipeline for supply of natural gas from Godavari Basin in Andhra Pradesh has been extended upto Kakinada;

(b) whether the Government of Orissa has requested the Union Government for extending the pipeline from Kakinada to Paradip in Orissa; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S.

KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) A gas transportation pipeline is being laid from Tatipaka to Kakinada.

(b) and (c). No such specific request seems to have been received in the Ministry.

Soviet Trade Mission at New Delhi

2486. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Soviet Trade Mission in New Delhi is being closed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the alternative arrangement/proposed to be made to maintain and strengthen and trade between the two countries;

(c) whether the information department of the Soviet Embassy is likely to be reopened; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAV SINGH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). At its meeting on 14th November 1991, the USSR State Council decided, inter alia, that in connection with the delegation of economic functions to the Soviet Ministry of External Relations, Departments of Economic Policy are to be set up in the USSR Embassies. Further, the USSR Trade representations would be abolished. However, insofar as the Soviet Trade Representation in India is concerned, Government have received no formal communication, so far, regarding its closure from the Soviet authorities.

(c) and (d). Government of India's information is that the Information and Cultural departments of the Soviet Embassy have

not been closed. As such, the issue of this department being re-opened does not arise.

Diversion of East Flowing Rivers

2487. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to divert the waters of east flowing rivers to the western side in order to provide water for cultivation to the farmers of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Under the Peninsular River Component of National Perspectives waters of east flowing Mahanadi and Godavari rivers are propose to be diverted for providing water for the drought prone areas to Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The National Water Development Agency has prepared the pre-feasibility report in respect of Mahanadi-Godavari and Godavari-Krishna Water transfer links. These have been sent to the concerned State Government for comments.

Arrangement of Fake Documents by Travel Agents

2488. SHRI GURUDAS KAMATH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the misguided youth of Punjab are seeking political Sasylum abroad;

(b) if so, the details of thereof the reasons therefor:

(c) whether certain travel agencies in Delhi and Punjab are engaged in arranging fake documents and other facilities for them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). Some Indian nationals are reported to have sought political asylum abroad on pretext of disturbed conditions prevailing in certain parts of India. However the real reasons are related to their own economic betterment.

(c) and (d). Some cases where passports are suspected to have been issued on strength of dubious documents are under investigation by police. Full details are being collected.

Dams in Kerala

2489. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the on-going dams being constructed for irrigation in Kerala; and

(b) the present stage of construction and the irrigation potential thereof, dam-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). A statement giving the details of the ongoing Major and Medium irrigation projects in Kerala and financial and physical status thereof, if enclosed.